

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES.

Rhopalocera Æthiopica. Die Tagfalter des Æthiopischen Faunengebietes. Eine systematisch-geographische Studie. Von CHR. AURIVILLIUS. Mit 6 Tafeln. *Der Königl. Akademie der Wissenschaften vorgelegt den 8 Juni 1898. (Kongl. Svenska Vetenskaps-Akademiens Handlingar, Bandet 31, No. 5.)* Stockholm, 1898 (correctly, 1899). Pp. 561.

Die Lepidopterenfauna des Bismarck-Archipels. Von Dr. ARNOLD PAGENSTECHER. Erster Theil: *Die Tagfalter.* Mit 2 color. Tafeln. (Zoologica, Heft 27.) Stuttgart, 1899. Pp. 160.

Orthopteren des Malayischen Archipels, gesammelt von Prof. Dr. W. KÜKENTHAL in den Jahren 1893 und 1894, bearbeitet von BRUNNER VON WATTENWYL, unter Berücksichtigung neuer verwandter Species. Mit fünf Tafeln. (Abhandl. d. Senckenbergischen naturforschenden Gesellschaft, Band xxiv. Heft 2.) Frankfurt-on-Main, 1898. Pp. 193-288.

A PROMINENT feature of learned Transactions and other Continental scientific publications in quarto is the encouragement which they offer to the issue of large and important works on Entomology, which would otherwise perhaps never see the light, and which are often accompanied with more fitting illustrations than would be possible on octavo plates, which are frequently too small to represent large insects properly. We have grouped three such publications together in the present notice.

Sweden has always been prominent in the study of African Lepidoptera. Many species from North, West, and South Africa are described in Linne's 'Systema Naturæ'; and the papers by Wallengren and Zeller on the species collected by Wahlberg in Caffraria, and published just about the time when Mr. Trimen first went out to the Cape, may be said to have inaugurated a new era in our studies. And now Prof. Aurivillius has given us a synopsis of the butterflies of the whole of Æthiopic Africa and Madagascar, numbering at present 1612 species—a total sure to be largely increased every year, especially now that his book has rendered the determination of species so easy. The Hesperiidæ are not included, being regarded as a separate group from the more typical butterflies.

The book is published in German, as being better known to entomologists in general than Swedish. It could hardly be expected that the species, except novelties, should be described in full; we are, however, not only given synopses of families and genera, but often even of the species in the different genera, such synopses being, in most cases, sufficient for identification.

Before completing his work, Prof. Aurivillius made a tour to inspect the various collections containing African butterflies, visiting Denmark, Germany, Austria, Holland, Belgium, and England; but we regret that he does not appear to have met Mr. Trimen.

A classified list of 142 works on African Lepidoptera, arranged geographically, will be found very useful.

There is much general matter at the beginning and end of the work, including several tables of geographical distribution.

Dr. Arnold Pagenstecher, of Wiesbaden, is as well known to entomologists as his cousin is known to the outside world as an oculist; and the publication before us is an elaborate monograph of the butterflies of an interesting part of the Papuan fauna, some of the islands of which were visited by the French exploring expeditions about 60 or 70 years ago, when various butterflies were collected there. At that time, some of the islands were known as New Britain and New Ireland, but they have received other names since they came into German hands. It is not to be expected that so distant and outlying a fauna should contain many species which are also found in Europe: the only species that strikes us, on glancing through the paper, is *Plebeius bæticus*; but this is rather an outlying European representative of a tropical group than a specially European species. The present paper on the Butterflies is to be followed, later, by another on the Moths, which entomologists will doubtless look forward to with much interest.

The third work on our list relates to the Order Orthoptera, and consists of lists of species captured in Batchian, Borneo, Celebes, Halmahera (otherwise called Gilolo), Ternate, and Java, with descriptions of numerous new species; and tables are given of the species included in some of the genera. The descriptions strike us as being, in many cases, rather too short to be quite sufficient for identification; but the measurements are carefully given in all cases, and a considerable number of species are figured, sometimes the whole insect, and sometimes only a leg or pronotum. This work will be very useful to students of Orthoptera, who, however, we fear are not too numerous at present.

New Zealand Moths and Butterflies (Macro-Lepidoptera). By G. V. HUNSON, F.E.S. (Author of 'An Elementary Manual of New Zealand Entomology'). With 13 Plates. 4to. 1898. West, Newman, & Co. Pp. xix, 144.

THE Fauna of New Zealand, as might be expected from its outlying position, is comparatively poor, but extremely interesting from the number of indigenous species absolutely peculiar to the islands. As regards Lepidoptera, the first attempt to bring together the scattered information existing on the subject was made by Dr. A. G. Butler in 1874, who included an account of the order in the "Voyage of the 'Erebus' and 'Terror,'" enumerating 318 species. Of these, 132 were Macro-Lepidoptera, and are represented by 234 species in Mr. Hudson's work, the number of species detected in New Zealand having been nearly doubled by the present time. Consequently we shall probably be not very far wrong if we assume the total number of New Zealand species now known to be about 600, which at a moderate estimate we may expect may ultimately be raised to 800, or perhaps even 1000. The majority of these are moths. Of butterflies Dr. Butler enumerates 9, of which one at least is very doubtful; Mr. Hudson admits 15, and mentions 5 other reputed species, 3